



Press Release

Texas Agricultural Statistics Service

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On: MARCH HOG AND PIG INVENTORY
UP 3 PERCENT

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Austin . . . The March 1, 2004 Texas hog and pig inventory, at 920,000 head, was up 3 percent from the March 2003 total of 890,000 head.

The number of breeding hogs totaled 110,000 head, up 5 percent from last year, according to figures released by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service.

The March 1 market hog inventory is up 3 percent from a year ago at 810,000 head, 88 percent of the total hog and pig inventory. The inventory of market hogs weighing less than 60 pounds, at 265 head, was up 20 percent from the previous year. The inventory of hogs weighing 60 to 119 pounds, at 180,000 head, was down 14 percent from the March 2003 inventory. Market hogs weighing 120 to 179 pounds totaled 195,000 head, a 26 percent increase from last year; hogs weighing 180 pounds or more, at 170,000 head, were down 15 percent.

The December 2003-February 2004 Texas pig crop totaled 386,000 head, an increase of 3 percent from last year. Pigs per litter averaged 8.40, down 4 percent from the previous year. State Director, Robin Roark, reported that 46,000 sows farrowed in Texas during December 2003 through February 2004, up 7 percent from last year.

The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2004, is estimated at 59.3 million head, 2 percent below December 1, 2003. The breeding hog inventory, at 5.92 million head, was down 2 percent from last year and down 1 percent from the last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 53.4 million head, was up 2 percent from last year.

The U.S. pig crop for December 2003-February 2004, at 24.9 million head, was 2 percent more than in 2003. U.S. producers intend to have 2.85 million sows farrow during the March-May 2004 period, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2003.